



PSC NEWS

Missouri Public Service Commission

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PSC GRANTS SPRINT REQUEST FOR COMPETITIVE CLASSIFICATION IN SOME OF ITS EXCHANGES

JEFFERSON CITY--The Missouri Public Service Commission has granted a Sprint Missouri, Inc. (Sprint) request for competitive classification in some of its exchanges under a new state law (SB 237) which took effect on August 28, 2005.

Competitive classification has been granted to Sprint in its Ferrelview, Platte City and Weston exchanges for all residential services, other than exchange access service. Competitive classification has been granted to Sprint in its Ferrelview, Platte City, St. Robert and Waynesville exchanges for all business services, other than exchange access service. Sprint has 78 exchanges in Missouri.

Under competitive classification, Sprint will have greater pricing flexibility than under either price cap regulation or rate of return regulation. Competitive classification in the above exchanges will allow Sprint to change its rates based upon the marketplace.

Competitive status will not affect the Commission's ability to maintain standards for quality of service, service termination for nonpayment, billing and other requirements.

Under the law, the Commission was required to issue its decision within 30 days of Sprint's August 30, 2005, filing. Under SB 237, the 30-day criteria for determining competitive classification is based upon the existence of two entities one of which may be a wireless provider, the other a wireline company providing local voice service using some or all of the facilities in which it has an ownership interest.

According to the stipulation entered into by the parties, all of the exchanges in this case have at least one non-affiliated wireless provider and at least one non-affiliated entity providing local voice service on a full facility basis.

The Commission determined that, based on the stipulation of facts by the parties, these exchanges satisfy the criteria under SB 237 for the competitive classification.